c'd PCT/PTO - 0.3 MAY 2000

(REV 12-29-99) TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)

97P 8646P

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 CFR 1.5)

CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371 INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. 03/11/97 PCT/DE98/03207 03/11/98 TITLE OF INVENTION Product, particularly of a gas turbine, with ceramic thermal barrier coat APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US Beate Heimberg et al. Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. X	This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
2.	This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3. X 4. X	This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(ft)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1). A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.
5. X	A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))
	 a. is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
	b. This been transmitted by the International Bureau.
	 is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).
6. X	A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).
7. X	Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))
	 a. are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
	b. A have been transmitted by the International Bureau.
	c. have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
	1 The second of

A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5))

A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).

Items 11. to 16. below concern document(s) or information included:

An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).

п. Ц	An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.96.
12.	An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included
13. X	A FIRST preliminary amendment.

A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment.

A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.

Other items or information:

A substitute specification.

17. The following fees are submitted: BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492 (a) (1) - (5)): Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO \$970.00 and International Search Report not prepared by the EPO or JPO International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but International Search Report prepared by the EPO or JPO. S840.00 International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT \$ 840.00 Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)). NUMBER EXTRA RATE CLAIMS NUMBER FILED 36.00 X \$18.00 Total claims X \$78.00 0.00 Independent claims 3 0.00 + \$260.00 \$ MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable) TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS = \$876.00 Reduction of 1/2 for filing by small entity, if applicable. A Small Entity Statement 0 must also by filed (Note 37 CFR 1.9, 1.27, 1.28). \$ 876.00 SUBTOTAL Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than 20 0 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)) \$876.00 TOTAL NATIONAL FEE Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be ٥ accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property 876.00 TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED Amount to be refunded: charged: \$_876.00 to cover the above fees is enclosed. A check in the amount of in the amount of \$___ to cover the above fees. Please charge my Deposit Account No. -A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2556. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. c X NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status. and C. Oale SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: SIGNATURE-Daniel C. Abeles NAME 25,822

REGISTRATION NUMBER

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

in to tappinous of	,
BEATE HEIMBERG et al.)
Serial No.: Not Assigned Yet)
Filed: May 3, 2000)
Entitled:) Attorney Docket No.: 97P 8646P
PRODUCT, PARTICULARLY COMPONENT OF A GAS TURBINE, WITH CERAMIC THERMAL BARRIER COATING)))

Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC 600 Grant Street, 44th Floor Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Assistant Commissioner for Patents BOX PCT Washington, D.C. 20231

In re Application of

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above application as follows:

In the specification:

Page 1, line 1, cancel -- Description -- .

Page 1, just above line 6, insert the heading "Field of the Invention".

Page 1, just above line 13, insert the heading "Background".

Page 4, just above line 19, insert the heading "Summary of the Invention".

Page 4, line 28, cancel from the period through end of the paragraph on Page 5, line 7.

Page 5, line 9, cancel --possible-- and insert "possibly".

Page 6, cancel from line 16 through Page 10, line 20.

Page 10, just above line 22, insert the heading "Brief Description of the Drawings".

Page 10, just above line 29, insert the heading "Description of the Preferred

Embodiment".

Page 10, just below the heading "Description of the Preferred Embodiment" insert:

The invention is based on the finding that currently used ceramic thermal barrier coatings, despite the use of, e.g., partially stabilized zirconium oxide, have a thermal expansion coefficient which at maximum is only about 70% of the thermal expansion coefficient of the metallic basic body used, particularly of a superalloy. This lower thermal expansion coefficient of the zirconium oxide thermal barrier coatings compared to the metallic basic body causes thermal stresses during exposure to a hot gas. To counteract such resultant stresses occurring under alternating thermal stress. an expansion-tolerant microstructure of the thermal barrier coating is required, e.g., by adjusting a corresponding porosity or a columnar structure of the thermal barrier coating. In a zirconium oxide-based thermal barrier coating, continuous sintering of the coating material furthermore takes place during operation [missing verb] a change in the microstructure. disappearance of the porosity, occurrence of new defects or cracks, and possible failure of the thermal barrier coating in thermal and mechanical respects. In addition, in a thermal barrier coating of partially stabilized zirconium oxide by means of stabilizers such as yttrium oxide, cerium oxide or lanthanum oxide, stresses may occur that are created due to a thermally associated phase transition (tetragonal to monoclinic and cubic). Due to the associated volume change, a maximum permissible surface temperature for thermal barrier coatings made of zirconium oxide is given.

The use of a spinel provides a thermal barrier coating, possible taking into account mixed crystal formation and microstructure modification, with a high thermal expansion coefficient, low thermal conductivity, a high melting point, high chemical stability, a reduced tendency toward sintering, and a high phase stability.

According to the invention, the product-related object is attained in that the thermal barrier coating has a spinel of the composition AB_2X_a , where

X represents oxygen, sulfur, selenium and/or tellurium. A represents an element or several elements of the group comprising aluminum, magnesium, manganese, iron, cobalt, nickel, copper, zinc, cadmium, silicon, titanium and tungsten. B represents one or several elements of the group comprising aluminum, magnesium, manganese, iron, vanadium, chromium, gallium, silicon, titanium, sodium and potassium.

The thermal barrier coating is bonded to the basic body either directly or indirectly via a bond coat. Bonding is preferably effected via an oxide layer that is formed, for example, by oxidation of the basic body or of the bond coat. Bonding can also or additionally be effected through mechanical anchoring, e.g., through roughness of the basic body or the bond coat.

Such a thermal barrier coating particularly serves to prolong the life of products that are subjected to a hot gas, e.g. gas turbine components, blades and heat shields. It exhibits low thermal conductivity, a high melting point, and is chemically inert.

It should be noted that the compound $MgAl_2O_4$ (magnesium aluminate) is already frequently termed the spinel. The term spinel, as used in the invention, signifies the aforementioned group of compounds of the general formula AB_2X_4 . The term "spinel" is intended to mean the so-called normal spinels (AB_2X_4) as well as the "inverse" spinels $(B(AB)_2X_4)$. In addition to the conventional spinels, in which X represents oxygen, material systems where X represents selenium, tellurium or sulfur are also included. In the normal spinel type, the oxygen atoms form a nearly cubic-dense lattice, in the tetrahedral vacancies of which there are 8 A atoms and in the octahedral vacancies of which there are 16 B atoms. In contrast, in what is known as an inverse spinel, 8 B atoms are present in tetrahedral and the remaining 8 B atoms and the 8 A atoms in octahedral coordination.

Preferably, the product has a spinel with oxygen. Here, A represents a metallic element of valence 2^+ and B a metallic element of valence 3^+ (socalled 2-3 spinels). In this class of spinels, A represents preferably magnesium, iron, zinc, manganese, cobalt, nickel, titanium, copper or cadmium, and B represents aluminum, iron, chromium or vanadium.

Preferably, the spinel has aluminum or chromium as the B element and magnesium, nickel, or cobalt as the A element.

Furthermore, the thermal barrier coating preferably has a spinel in which B represents magnesium and A titanium.

In addition to the aforementioned 2-3 spinels with the valence A^{2+} and B^{3+} , there are other spinel types with a different valence of the cations, e.g., 1-6 spinels (WNa₂O₄) and 2-4 spinels (e.g. Fe₂TiO₄). In addition to the aforementioned elements that can represent the symbol A, aluminum, silicon, titanium and tungsten may also be used. B also comprises the elements magnesium, manganese, gallium, silicon, sodium and potassium.

The thermal conductivity of a preferred spinel is between 1.0 W/mK and 5.0 W/mK. The thermal expansion coefficient is preferably between 6 x 10° K and $12 \times 10^{\circ}$ K and the melting point is greater than 1600° C. The

indicated ranges for expansion coefficient and thermal conductivity apply to bodies of a ternary oxide with and "ideal" cell structure in manufacturing terms, i.e., without specifically introduced porosities. For MgAl₂O₄, e.g., the melting point is approximately 2100° C, thermal conductivity is 4.0 W/mK at 1945° C and the thermal expansion coefficient is 7.6 to 9.2 x 10° $^{\circ}$ /K at temperatures between 25° and 1200° C. For CoAl₂O₄ the melting point is approximately 1955° C and the thermal expansion coefficient is between 7 and 11 x 10° f/K at temperatures of between 500° and 1500° C. For MgCr₂O₄ a melting point on the order of magnitude of 2400° C applies, a thermal expansion coefficient of between 6.5 and 7.6 x 10° f/K at 25° to 1200° C, and a thermal conductivity [W/mK] of 1.4 in the range of 25° to 300° C. For CoCr₂O₄ the melting point is above 1600° C and the thermal expansion coefficient is between 7.5 and 8.5 x 10° f/K at 500° to 1500° C. The compound TiMg₂O₄ has a melting point of 1835° C and a thermal expansion coefficient of 6 to 12 x 10° f/K in the range of 500° to 1500° C.

Preferably, the spinel is present as a mixture in the ternary system of the type AB₂X₄-AX-B₂X₃. A metallic mixed oxide system with the spinel and an additional compound, particularly an oxide, may also be present. The spinel, or the spinel present as a mixture, can have an oxide or several oxides of the group comprising NiO, CoO, Al₂O₃ and Cr₂O₃. This can be the case even if said oxides are not already a component of the spinel. In particular, said oxides can be present in an aluminate or a chromate spinel.

Furthermore, the spinel or a spinel consisting of a mixture can have an oxide or several oxides of the group comprising magnesium oxide ((X_{O})), and hafnium oxide ((X_{O})). This can be the case with spinels in which the oxides MgO, (X_{O}) and HfO₂ are not already a component of the ternary system or the spinel, particularly with a chromate spinel or an aluminate spinel. A zirconium oxide or hafnium oxide present in the spinel is partially or fully stabilized particularly with yttrium oxide ((Y_{2O})) or another rare earth oxide. A rare earth metal is hereby understood to mean, for short, one of the elements scandium, yttrium, lanthanum, as well as the lanthanides such as cerium and ytterbium. Furthermore, oxides of the actinides may also be added.

The bond coat has preferably an alloy that comprises at least one element of the spinel. Hence, through at least partial oxidation of the bond coat, an oxide is formed of this element that is also contained in the spinel, e.g., aluminum, chromium, cobalt or others to provide good adhesion of the spinel to the bond coat. The bond coat is preferably an alloy of the type MCrAIY, where M represents an element or several elements of the group comprising iron, cobalt or nickel, Cr represents chromium, Al aluminum, and Y yttrium or a reactive rare earth element. Furthermore, the bond coat can include, e.g., 1 to 15 wt-% rhenium. The chromium content preferably ranges from 3% to 50%, particularly from 12% to 25%, the aluminum content is preferably between 3% and 20%, particularly between 5% and 15%. The yttrium content is preferably between 0.01% and 0.3%.

The product is preferably a component of a thermal turbo machine, particularly a gas turbine. In particular, it is a turbine moving blade, a turbine stationary blade, or a heat shield of a combustion chamber. The metallic basic body preferably has a nickel-, cobalt- and/or chromium based superalloy. It is also possible to provide a furnace or similar component with a thermal barrier coating made of a spinel.

The advantage of the spinels is their high tolerance to impurities, e.g., due to the formation of simple or complex mixed crystals in the presence of iron, aluminum, nickel, chromium or other metals, a good characterization of the sintering behavior of the high-melting spinels, and an essentially cubic structure and therefore quasi isotropic thermal expansion. Spinels furthermore exhibit good chemical resistance, high thermal shock resistance and high strength. Even with a transition of a spinel from its normal form to the inverse form, or at least partially to the inverse form, there are no abrupt changes in the physical-chemical properties. The transition from normal to inverse spinel can thus be considered an order-disorder induced phase transition of the second order, which has no great influence on the properties of the thermal barrier coating.

Thermal barrier coatings with a spinel may be produced, for example, by simple plasma spraying. A thermal barrier coating with a corresponding porosity can be produced by atmospheric plasma spraying. Alternatively, the thermal barrier coating may be applied by means of vapor deposition, e.g., an electron beam PVD process, with an adjustable columnar structure.

Preferably, the thermal barrier coating is applied by atmospheric plasma spraying, particularly with a predefinable porosity. The metallic mixed oxide system may also be applied by means of a suitable vapor deposition process, a suitable PVD process (Physical Vapor Deposition), particularly a reactive PVD process. When the thermal barrier coating is applied by means of vapor deposition, e.g., an electron beam PVD process, a columnar structure can be achieved if required. In a reactive PVD process, a reaction, particularly a conversion, of the individual components of a ternary oxide or a pseudo ternary oxide takes place only during the coating operation, particularly directly upon striking the product. In non-reactive vapor deposition, the previously pre-reacted products, particularly the ternary oxides with a perovskite structure are evaporated and are then deposited from the vapor onto the product. The use of pre-reacted products is advantageous particularly if plasma spraying is used.

The production (synthesis) of the spinels, e.g., $NiCr_2O_4$, $NiAl_2O_4$ and $MgCr_2O_4$ can be carried out phase-shift-free in the "mixed oxide process." In this case, the starting powders used are the associated binary oxides, e.g., Cr_2O_3 , NiO, Al_2O_3 and MgO. These powders can be homogenized under isopropanol, cold isostatically pressed, particularly at a pressure of 625 mPa, and subsequently tempered for 50 hours at 1500° C in air at a heat rate of 5 K/min

Continue with the existing text as a separate paragraph, starting at Page 10, line 22.

In the claims:

Claim 5 (Amended) - Product (1) as claimed in [one of the preceding claims] Claim 2, characterized in that the spinel is present as a mixture in the ternary system of the type AB₂X₄-AX-B₂X₃.

Claim 6 (Amended) - Product (1) as claimed in [one of the preceding claims] <u>Claim</u> 2, characterized in that the mixed oxide system with the spinel has an additional oxide or several additional oxides.

Claim 7 (Amended) - Product (1) as claimed in [one of the preceding claims] <u>Claim</u> $\underline{6}$, characterized in that the additional oxide is stabilized with yttrium oxide (Y_2O_3) or another rare earth oxide.

Claim 9 (Amended) - Product (1) as claimed in [one of the preceding claims] Claim 2, characterized in that between basic body (2) and thermal barrier coating (4) a bond coat (3) forming a bonding oxide is disposed.

Claim 11 (Amended) - Product (1) as claimed in [one of the preceding claims].

Claim 2, characterized in that it is designed as a component of a thermal turbo machine, particularly a gas turbine.

Claim 13 (Amended) - Product (1) as claimed in [one of the preceding claims]

Claim 2, characterized in that the thermal expansion coefficient α of the spinel is between 6*10 6 /K and 17*10 6 /K.

Claim 14 (Amended) - Product (1) as claimed in [one of the preceding claims]

Claim 2, characterized in that the thermal conductivity of the spinel is between 1.0

W/mK and 4.0 W/mK.

Claim 15 (Amended) - Product (1) as claimed in [one of the preceding claims]

<u>Claim 2</u>, wherein the metallic basic body (4) has a nickel, cobalt and/or chromium-based super alloy.

Newly Added Claims

- 17. Product (1) as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that the spinel is present as a mixture in the ternary system of the type AB₂X₄-AX-B₂X₃.
- 18. Product (1) as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that the mixed oxide system with the spinel has an additional oxide or several additional oxides.
- 19. Product (1) as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that between basic body
 (2) and thermal barrier coating (4) a bond coat (3) forming a bonding oxide is disposed.
- 20. Product (1) as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that the thermal expansion coefficient α of the spinel is between 6*10*6/K and 17*10*6/K.
- 21. Product (1) as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that the thermal conductivity of the spinel is between 1.0 W/mK and 4.0 W/mK.
- 22. Product (1) as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the metallic basic body (4) has a nickel, cobalt and/or chromium-based super alloy.

In the abstract, Page 17, cancel line 11.

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REMARKS

The foregoing amendments to the specification were made to conform to U.S. practice. The subject matter added to the description of the preferred embodiment can be found on Page 4 of the conformed copy of the translation starting at line 19. Accordingly, no new subject matter has been introduced by the foregoing amendments. The conformed copy of the translation has been formatted to facilitate an understanding of where the translated amendments, made during PCT prosecution, are to be inserted. Entry of this amendment and favorable consideration of the application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

LC. Gab

Daniel C. Abeles Attorney for Applicant Registration No. 25,822

(412) 566-1295

Description

Product, Particularly Component of a Gas Turbine, with Ceramic Thermal Barrier Coating

The invention relates to a product that can be exposed to a hot aggressive gas, with a metallic basic body provided with a bond coat forming a bonding oxide and a ceramic thermal barrier coating. The invention furthermore relates to components that can be subjected to a hot gas in thermal machines, particularly in a gas turbine,

which are provided with a thermal barrier coating to protect them against a hot 10 aggressive gas.

US Patent 4,585,481 discloses a protective coating to protect a metallic substrate made of a superalloy against high-temperate oxidation and corrosion. A MCrAlY alloy is used for these protective coatings. This protective coating has 5% to 40% 15 chromium, 8% to 35% aluminum, 0.1% to 2% of an oxygen active element selected from Group IIIb of the periodic system, including the lanthanides and actinides and mixtures thereof, 0.1% to 7% silicon, 0.1% to 3% hafnium, and a balance comprising nickel and/or cobalt (the percentages indicated are weight percent). The corresponding MCrAlY alloy protective coatings according to US 4,585,481 are 20 applied by plasma spraying.

US Patent 4,321,310 describes a gas turbine component with a basic body made of a nickel-based MAR-M-200 superalloy. A MCrAlY alloy layer is applied to the base material, particularly a NiCOCrAlY alloy with 18% chromium, 23% cobalt, 12.5%

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GB 745 257 A discloses a process for coating a metal or another material with stable metal oxides. The other materials indicated, which may be used as a substrate for a coating, are ceramic materials and graphite. Various spinels, e.g., chromite FeO • Cr_2O_3 , chrysoberyl BeO • Al_2O_3 , gahnite $ZuAl_2O_4$, geikielite (Mg, Fe) O • TiO_2 and MgO • Al_2O_3 (aluminate spinel) are applied as the coating material to the substrate by means of thermal spraying. With this process, the aforementioned minerals are sprayed, for example, onto the turbine blades of aircraft engines.

aluminum, 0.3% yttrium and a balance of nickel. This MCrAlY alloy layer has a polished surface to which an aluminum oxide layer is applied. A ceramic barrier coating with a columnar structure is applied to this aluminum oxide layer. Due to this columnar microstructure of the thermal barrier coating, the crystallite columns are perpendicular to the surface of the basic body. The ceramic material

specified is stabilized zirconium oxide.

US Patent 5,236,787 discloses the insertion of an interlayer of a metal-ceramic mixture between the basic body and a ceramic thermal barrier coating. This is intended to cause the metallic proportion of this interlayer to increase toward the 10 basic body and to decrease toward the thermal barrier coating. Conversely, the ceramic proportion is to be low near the basic body and high near the thermal barrier coating. The thermal barrier coating specified is a zirconium oxide stabilized with vttrium oxide with components of cerium oxide. With this interlayer an adaptation of the different thermal expansion coefficients between the metallic basic 15 body and the ceramic thermal barrier coating is to be achieved.

EP 0 486 489 B1 discloses a corrosion resistant protective coating for intermediate and high temperatures of up to approximately 1050° C for a gas turbine component made of a nickel-base or cobalt-base alloy. The protective coating has (in percent by 2.0 weight) 25% to 40% nickel, 28% to 32% chromium, 7% to 9% aluminum, 1% to 2% silicon, and 0.3% to 1% of at least one reactive rare earth element, at least 5% cobalt, and optionally 0% to 15% of at least one of the elements of the group consisting of rhenium, platinum, palladium, zirconium, manganese, tungsten, 25 titanium, molybdenum, niobium, iron, hafnium and tantalum. In a concrete embodiment, the protective coating contains the elements nickel, chromium, aluminum, silicon, vttrium, and rhenium in a range of 1% to 15% and a balance of cobalt. The addition of rhenium clearly enhances the corrosion protective properties.

WO 96/34128 A1 discloses a product, particularly a gas turbine blade, with a metallic substrate. A protective coating system comprising a bond coat and a thermal barrier coating is applied to the metallic substrate. The thermal barrier coating consists of a columnar ceramic oxide, particularly made of a partially 5 stabilized zirconium oxide. This thermal barrier coating is bonded to the metallic substrate via an anchoring layer. The anchoring layer in turn is bonded via the bond coat to the metallic substrate, particularly a nickel-based or cobalt-based superalloy. The bond coat consists of a MCrAlY alloy, such as indicated, for example, in US Patents 5,154,885; 5,268,238; 5,273,712, and 5,401,307. The anchoring layer for 10 its part consists of a spinel comprising aluminum and an other metallic element. The other metallic element is preferably zirconium. The anchoring layer is preferably applied by means of a PVD process, particularly an electron beam PVD process, in an oxygen-containing atmosphere. During the coating operation, the metallic substrate is kept at a temperature of above 700° C. The thickness of the anchoring 15 layer is preferably less than 25 μ m.

WO 96/31293 A1 describes a protective coating system for a gas turbine blade that is applied to a superalloy component for protection. The protective coating system comprises a zirconium oxide-based thermal barrier coating. To this zirconium 20 oxide-based thermal barrier coating, a wear coat is applied that is to prevent premature damage to the thermal barrier coating. Such premature wear of the unprotected thermal barrier coating occurs due to contact with a hot aggressive gas containing oxides of calcium or magnesium. The wear layer has a composition that reacts with the oxides in the hot aggressive gas, which increases the melting 25 temperature and the viscosity of the wear layer. For this purpose, the wear layer comprises, for example, aluminum oxide, magnesium oxide, chromium oxide and a spinel, e.g., magnesium-aluminum oxide.

US Patent 5,466,280 (corresponding to GB 2 286 977 A1) discloses a composition

for an inorganic coating applied to a low alloy steel and resistant to high
temperatures. The predominant property of the coating is that it provides increased

corrosion resistance by incorporating iron into the coating. The coating is created by converting different metal oxides, such as magnesium oxide, aluminum oxide, iron oxide and calcium oxide at temperatures of above 1000° C into spinels, which are not further specified.

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German Application 15 83 971 discloses a refractory protective layer for metallurgical furnaces, which protective layer has a spinel, namely MgO-Al₂O₃. German Patent 37 37 215 discloses a protective coating containing spinel (MgO-Al₂O₃) for an electrochemical sensor to determine the oxygen content in gases, particularly exhaust gases of internal combustion engines of automobiles.

particularly exhaust gases of internal combustion engines of automobiles

EP 0 684 322 A2 discloses a MgO – SiO_2 and/or MgO – Al_2O_3 based ceramic coating made particularly of forsterite (Mg₂SiO₄), spinel (MgAl₂O₄) or cordierites (2MgO – $2Al_2O_3$ – $5SiO_4$).

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The object of the invention is to define a product, particularly a component of a gas turbine, with a metallic basic body and a thermal barrier coating disposed thereon.

The invention is based on the finding that currently used ceramic thermal barrier 20 coatings, despite the use of, e.g., partially stabilized zirconium oxide, have a thermal expansion coefficient which at maximum is only about 70% of the thermal expansion coefficient of the metallic basic body used, particularly of a superalloy. This lower thermal expansion coefficient of the zirconium oxide thermal barrier coatings compared to the metallic basic body causes thermal stresses during 25 exposure to a hot gas. To counteract such resultant stresses occurring under alternating thermal stress, an expansion-tolerant microstructure of the thermal barrier coating is required, e.g., by adjusting a corresponding porosity or a columnar structure of the thermal barrier coating. In a zirconium oxide-based thermal barrier coating, continuous sintering of the coating material furthermore takes place during operation [missing verb] a change in the microstructure, 30 disappearance of the porosity, occurrence of new defects or cracks, and possible

failure of the thermal barrier coating in thermal and mechanical respects. In addition, in a thermal barrier coating of partially stabilized zirconium oxide by means of stabilizers such as yttrium oxide, cerium oxide or lanthanum oxide, stresses may occur that are created due to a thermally associated phase transition (tetragonal to monoclinic and cubic). Due to the associated volume change, a maximum permissible surface temperature for thermal barrier coatings made of zirconium oxide is given.

The use of a spinel provides a thermal barrier coating, possible taking into account

mixed crystal formation and microstructure modification, with a high thermal
expansion coefficient, low thermal conductivity, a high melting point, high chemical
stability, a reduced tendency toward sintering, and a high phase stability.

According to the invention, the product-related object is attained in that the thermal barrier coating has a spinel of the composition AB₂X₄, where X represents oxygen, sulfur, selenium and/or tellurium. A represents an element or several elements of the group comprising aluminum,

magnesium, manganese, iron, cobalt, nickel, copper, zinc, cadmium, silicon, titanium and tungsten. B represents one or several elements of the group comprising aluminum, magnesium, manganese, iron, vanadium, chromium, gallium, silicon, titanium, sodium and potassium.

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The thermal barrier coating is bonded to the basic body either directly or indirectly via a bond coat. Bonding is preferably effected via an oxide layer that is formed, for example, by oxidation of the basic body or of the bond coat. Bonding can also or additionally be effected through mechanical anchoring, e.g., through roughness of the basic body or the bond coat.

Such a thermal barrier coating particularly serves to prolong the life of products that are subjected to a hot gas, e.g. gas turbine components, blades and heat shields. It exhibits low thermal conductivity, a high melting point, and is chemically inert.

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It should be noted that the compound MgAl₂O₄ (magnesium aluminate) is already frequently termed the spinel. The term spinel, as used in the invention, signifies the aforementioned group of compounds of the general formula AB₂X₄. The term "spinel" is intended to mean the so-called normal spinels (AB₂X₄) as well as the "inverse" spinels (B (AB) ₂X₄). In addition to the conventional spinels, in which X represents oxygen, material systems where X represents selenium, tellurium or sulfur are also included. In the normal spinel type, the oxygen atoms form a nearly cubic-dense lattice, in the tetrahedral vacancies of which there are 8 A atoms and in the octahedral vacancies of which there are 16 B atoms. In contrast, in what is known as an inverse spinel, 8 B atoms are present in tetrahedral and the remaining 8 B atoms and the 8 A atoms in octahedral coordination.

Preferably, the product has a spinel with oxygen. Here, A represents a metallic element of valence 2^+ and B a metallic element of valence 3^+ (so-called 2-3 spinels). In this class of spinels, A represents preferably magnesium, iron, zinc, manganese, cobalt, nickel, titanium, copper or cadmium, and B represents

5 aluminum, iron, chromium or vanadium.

Preferably, the spinel has aluminum or chromium as the B element and magnesium, nickel, or cobalt as the A element.

10 Furthermore, the thermal barrier coating preferably has a spinel in which B represents magnesium and A titanium.

In addition to the aforementioned 2-3 spinels with the valence A²⁺ and B³⁺, there are other spinel types with a different valence of the cations, e.g., 1-6 spinels

(WNa₂O₄) and 2-4 spinels (e.g. Fe₂TiO₄). In addition to the aforementioned elements that can represent the symbol A, aluminum, silicon, titanium and tungsten may also be used. B also comprises the elements magnesium, manganese, gallium, silicon, sodium and potassium.

The thermal conductivity of a preferred spinel is between 1.0 W/mK and 5.0 W/mK. The thermal expansion coefficient is preferably between 6 x 10° K and 12 x 10° K and the melting point is greater than 1600° C. The indicated ranges for expansion coefficient and thermal conductivity apply to bodies of a ternary oxide with and "ideal" cell structure in manufacturing terms, i.e., without specifically introduced porosities. For MgAl₂O₄, e.g., the melting point is approximately 2100° C, thermal conductivity is 4.0 W/mK at 1945° C and the thermal expansion coefficient is 7.6 to 9.2 x 10° K at temperatures between 25° and 1200° C. For CoAl₂O₄ the melting point is approximately 1955° C and the thermal expansion coefficient is between 7 and 11 x 10° K at temperatures of between 500° and 1500°
C. For MgCr₂O₄ a melting point on the order of magnitude of 2400° C applies, a

thermal expansion coefficient of between 6.5 and 7.6 x 10⁻⁶/k at 25° to 1200° C,

and a thermal conductivity [W/mK] of 1.4 in the range of 25° to 300° C. For $CoCr_2O_4$ the melting point is above 1600° C and the thermal expansion coefficient is between 7.5 and 8.5 x 10^{-6} /K at 500° to 1500° C. The compound $TiMg_2O_4$ has a melting point of 1835° C and a thermal expansion coefficient of 6 to 12×10^{-6} /K in the range of 500° to 1500° C.

Preferably, the spinel is present as a mixture in the ternary system of the type AB_2X_4 -AX- B_2X_3 . A metallic mixed oxide system with the spinel and an additional compound, particularly an oxide, may also be present. The spinel, or the spinel present as a mixture, can have an oxide or several oxides of the group comprising NiO, CoO, Al_2O_3 and Cr_2O_3 . This can be the case even if said oxides are not already a component of the spinel. In particular, said oxides can be present in an aluminate or a chromate spinel.

15 Furthermore, the spinel or a spinel consisting of a mixture can have an oxide or several oxides of the group comprising magnesium oxide (MgO), zirconium oxide (ZrO₂) and hafnium oxide (HfO₂). This can be the case with spinels in which the oxides MgO, ZrO₂ and HfO₂ are not already a component of the ternary system or the spinel, particularly with a chromate spinel or an aluminate spinel. A zirconium oxide or hafnium oxide present in the spinel is partially or fully stabilized particularly with yttrium oxide (Y₂O₃) or another rare earth oxide. A rare earth metal is hereby understood to mean, for short, one of the elements scandium, yttrium, lanthanum, as well as the lanthanides such as cerium and ytterbium. Furthermore, oxides of the actinides may also be added.

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The bond coat has preferably an alloy that comprises at least one element of the spinel. Hence, through at least partial oxidation of the bond coat, an oxide is formed of this element that is also contained in the spinel, e.g., aluminum, chromium, cobalt or others to provide good adhesion of the spinel to the bond coat. The bond coat is preferably an alloy of the type MCrAIY, where M represents an element or several elements of the group comprising iron, cobalt or nickel, Cr represents

chromium, Al aluminum, and Y yttrium or a reactive rare earth element. Furthermore, the bond coat can include, e.g., 1 to 15 wt-% rhenium. The chromium content preferably ranges from 3% to 50%, particularly from 12% to 25%, the aluminum content is preferably between 3% and 20%, particularly between 5% and 15%. The yttrium content is preferably between 0.01% and 0.3%.

The product is preferably a component of a thermal turbo machine, particularly a gas turbine. In particular, it is a turbine moving blade, a turbine stationary blade, or a heat shield of a combustion chamber. The metallic basic body preferably has a nickel-, cobalt- and/or chromium based superalloy. It is also possible to provide a furnace or similar component with a thermal barrier coating made of a spinel.

The advantage of the spinels is their high tolerance to impurities, e.g., due to the formation of simple or complex mixed crystals in the presence of iron, aluminum, nickel, chromium or other metals, a good characterization of the sintering behavior of the high-melting spinels, and an essentially cubic structure and therefore quasi isotropic thermal expansion. Spinels furthermore exhibit good chemical resistance, high thermal shock resistance and high strength. Even with a transition of a spinel from its normal form to the inverse form, or at least partially to the inverse form, there are no abrupt changes in the physical-chemical properties. The transition from normal to inverse spinel can thus be considered an order-disorder induced phase transition of the second order, which has no great influence on the properties of the thermal barrier coating.

25 Thermal barrier coatings with a spinel may be produced, for example, by simple plasma spraying. A thermal barrier coating with a corresponding porosity can be produced by atmospheric plasma spraying. Alternatively, the thermal barrier coating may be applied by means of vapor deposition, e.g., an electron beam PVD process, with an adjustable columnar structure.

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Preferably, the thermal barrier coating is applied by atmospheric plasma spraying, particularly with a predefinable porosity. The metallic mixed oxide system may also be applied by means of a suitable vapor deposition process, a suitable PVD process (Physical Vapor Deposition), particularly a reactive PVD process. When the

- 5 thermal barrier coating is applied by means of vapor deposition, e.g., an electron beam PVD process, a columnar structure can be achieved if required. In a reactive PVD process, a reaction, particularly a conversion, of the individual components of a ternary oxide or a pseudo ternary oxide takes place only during the coating operation, particularly directly upon striking the product. In non-reactive vapor deposition, the previously pre-reacted products, particularly the ternary oxides with
 - deposition, the previously pre-reacted products, particularly the ternary oxides with a perovskite structure are evaporated and are then deposited from the vapor onto the product. The use of pre-reacted products is advantageous particularly if plasma spraying is used.
- 15 The production (synthesis) of the spinels, e.g., NiCr₂O₄, NiAl₂O₄ and MgCr₂O₄ can be carried out phase-shift-free in the "mixed oxide process." In this case, the starting powders used are the associated binary oxides, e.g., Cr₂O₃, NiO, Al₂O₃ and MgO. These powders can be homogenized under isopropanol, cold isostatically pressed, particularly at a pressure of 625 mPa, and subsequently tempered for 50 hours at 1500° C in air at a heat rate of 5 K/min.

The invention will now be described in greater detail, by way of example, with reference to the drawing in which:

25 FIG 1 is a perspective view of a gas turbine blade and FIG 2 and 3 are each a segment of a cross-section through the turbine blade depicted in Figure 1.

Figure 1 shows a product 1, in this case a gas turbine blade 1, with a metallic basic

30 body 2 made of a nickel-based, cobalt-based or chromium-based superalloy. The gas
turbine blade 1 has a blade root 10 for mounting to a turbine shaft (not depicted), a

vane 9 adjoining the blade root and a seal strip 8 bordering vane 9. At least on vane 9, gas turbine blade 1 is coated with a bond coat 3 (see Figures 2 and 3) and a thermal barrier coating 4 is applied thereto. Between the thermal barrier coating 4 and the bond coat 3, an oxide layer 5 is formed having an oxide of a metallic

- element of the alloy of bond coat 3. The bond coat has an alloy of the MCrAIY type, where M represents an element or several elements of the group comprising iron, cobalt and nickel, Cr represents chromium, Al aluminum, and Y yttrium or a rear earth element. The thermal barrier coating 4 applied to bond coat 3 has a spinel of the structural formula AB₂O₄, particularly a 2-3 spinel. The 2-3 spinel has a
- metallic element B, particularly chromium or aluminum, and an additional metallic element A, particularly magnesium, nickel or cobalt, e.g., MgAl₂O₄, CoAl₂O₄, MgCr₂O₄, CoCr₂O, or TiMg₂O₄. A 2-3 spinel can furthermore be present as a ternary system of the actual spinel and a respective oxide of a bivalent metallic element and a trivalent metallic element. Furthermore, an additional oxide,
 particularly MgO, ZrO₂, HfO₂, NiO, CoO, Al₂O₃ or Cr₂O₃ can be admixed to the
- 15 particularly MgO, ZrO₂, HfO₂, NiO, CoO, Al₂O₃ or Cr₂O₃ can be admixed to the spinel or to the spinel containing a mixture. Oxide layer 5 and bond coat 3 ensure good adhesion of the thermal barrier coating 4 to the metallic basic body 2.
- Figure 3 shows a coating system analogous to that shown in Figure 2 in which the

 20 basic body 2 is provided with a bond coat 3 to which the thermal barrier coating 4 is
 applied. Bond coat 3 has a rough surface, such that thermal barrier coating 4
 essentially adheres to bond coat 3, and thus to basic body 2, without a chemical
 bond but through mechanical anchoring. This roughness of surface 11 of bond coat
 3 can be provided already through the application of bond coat 3, e.g., by vacuum

 25 spraying. The thermal barrier coating 4 can also be applied directly to the metallic
 basic body 2 through a corresponding roughness of the metallic basic body 2. It is
 also possible to apply an additional bond coat between bond coat 3 and thermal
 barrier coating 4, e.g., with an aluminum nitride or a chromium nitride.
- 30 To ensure good and permanent adhesion, even when the product is exposed to a hot gas 7 during operation of the turbine system (not depicted), the high thermal

expansion coefficient of the spinel, which is close to that of the thermal coefficient of the superalloy, achieves [sic]. The fact that the spinel has low thermal conductivity, a high melting point and no critical phase transition at the temperatures of the gas turbine system, which can reach more than 1250° C on

5 surface 6 of thermal barrier coating 4, further contributes to a permanent bond. This ensures a long service life even with alternating thermal stresses of gas turbine blade 1.

Claims

- 1. High-temperature resistant component (1) of a gas turbine that can be exposed to a hot aggressive gas with a metallic basic body (2) having a bond coat (3) and a ceramic barrier coating (4) applied thereto, whereby the bond coat (3) is disposed between the basic body (2) and the ceramic thermal barrier coating (4), and whereby the ceramic thermal barrier coating (4) comprises an inner coating region facing the bond coat (3) and an outer coating region facing away from the bond coat (3), whereby the inner coating region has a spinel of the structural formula AB₂X₄ and/or B (AB)₂X₄, and where
- X represents an element or several elements of the group comprising oxygen, sulfur, selenium and tellurium.
- A represents an element or several elements of the group comprising aluminum, manganese, iron, cobalt, nickel, copper, zinc, cadmium, silicon, titanium and tungsten, and
- B represents an element or several elements of the group comprising aluminum, magnesium, manganese, iron, vanadium, chromium, gallium, silicon, titanium, sodium and potassium.
- Component (1) as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that B represents aluminum (aluminate spinel) or chromium (chromium spinel), A represents nickel, cobalt or titanium, and X represents oxygen.
- Component (1) as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that B represents magnesium, A titanium, and X represents oxygen.
- 4. High-temperature resistant component (1) of a gas turbine that can be exposed to a hot aggressive gas with a metallic basic body (2) having a bond coat (3) and a ceramic barrier coating (4) applied thereto, whereby the bond coat (3) is disposed between the basic body (2) and the ceramic thermal barrier coating (4), and whereby the ceramic thermal

barrier coating (4) comprises an inner coating region facing the bond coat (3) and an outer coating region facing away from the bond coat (3), whereby the inner coating region has a spinel of the structural formula AB_2X_4 and/or $B\ (AB)_2X_4$,

characterized in that B represents aluminum (aluminate spinel) or chromium, (chromium spinel), A represents magnesium, and X represents oxygen.

- Component (I) as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the spinel is present as a mixture in the ternary system of the type AB₂X₄-AX-B₂X₃.
- Component (1) as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the mixed oxide system with the spinel has an additional oxide or several additional oxides.
- Component (1) as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the additional oxide is stabilized with yttrium oxide (Y₂O₃) or another rare earth oxide.
- Component (1) as claimed in one of the preceding claims,
 characterized in that between basic body (2) and thermal barrier coating (4) a bond coat
 forming a bonding oxide is disposed.
- Component (1) as claimed in Claim 8, characterized in that the bond coat (3) is an alloy comprising at least one of the elements of the spinel.
- 10. Component (1) as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that it is designed as a turbine moving blade, a turbine stationary blade or a heat shield of a combustion chamber.

- 11. Component (1) as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the thermal expansion coefficient α of the spinel is between 6*10° 6 /K and 17*10° 6 /K.
- 12. Component (1) as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the thermal conductivity of the spinel is between 1.0 W/mK and 4.0 W/mK.
- 13. Component (1) as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein the metallic basic body (4) has a nickel-, cobalt- and/or chromium-based super alloy.
- 14. Process for producing a thermal barrier coating (4) on a component (1) of a gas turbine with a metallic basic body that has a bond coat (3) applied thereto, wherein a spinel of the structural formula AB₂X₄ and/or B (AB)₂X₄, where
- X represents an element or several elements of the group comprising oxygen, sulfur, selenium and tellurium,
- A represents an element or several elements of the group comprising aluminum, manganese, iron, cobalt, nickel, copper, zinc, cadmium, silicon, titanium and tungsten, and
- B represents an element or several elements of the group comprising aluminum, magnesium, manganese, iron, vanadium, chromium, gallium, silicon, titanium, sodium and potassium, is applied to the component (1) by plasma spraying or by vapor deposition.

Abstract

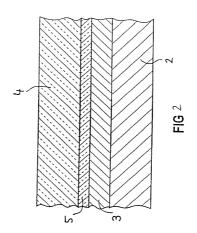
Product, Particularly a Gas Turbine Component, with Ceramic Thermal Barrier Coating

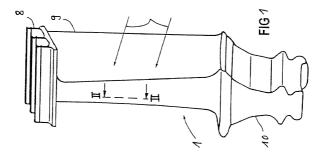
The invention relates to a product (1), particularly a gas turbine blade that can be exposed to a hot aggressive gas (7). The product (1) has a metallic basic body (2), which is provided with a thermal barrier coating (4) having a spinel of the composition AB_2O_4 .

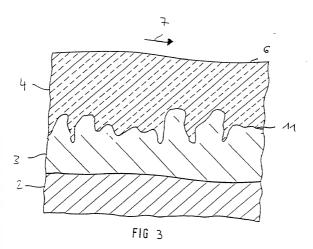
FIG 2

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DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN

PATENT APPLICATION (37 CFR 1.63)

□ Declaration Declaration OR Submitted after Initial Submitted Filing (surcharge with Initial (37 ČFR 1.16 (e)) Filing required)

Attorney Docket Number	97P 8646						
First Named Inventor	Beate Heimberg						
COMPLETE	F KNOWN						
Application Number	09 / 530,653						
Filing Date	May 3, 2000						
Group Art Unit							
Examiner Name							

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:
My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.
I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled.
Product, particularly component of a gas turbine, with ceramic thermal barrier coating
the specification of which (Title of the Invention) is attached hereto
OR was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY) 11/03/98 as United States Application Number or PCT International
Application Number PCT/US98/03207 and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY)
I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.
I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56.

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Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified C	opy Attached? NO
19748537.5	DE	11/03/97	0000	0000	X

Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 i	J.S.C. 119(e) of any United States provisio	nai application(s) listed below.
Application Number(s)	Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	
		Additional provisional application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

[Page 1 of 2]

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DECLARATION

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ADDITIONAL INVENTOR(S) Supplemental Sheet

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, D	DECLARATION					ADDITIONAL INVENTOR(S) Supplemental Sheet Page #_ of #_							
Name of Addition	nal Joint Inventor, if any	/:		A peti	tion	has been filed	for this ur	nsigned inv	rentor				
Given Na	me (first and middle [if any])					Family Name	e or Surna	me					
Hans J.				Seife	rt	-							
Inventor's Signature	Hams J.	lin	(e.A.					Date /	4.03.06				
Residence: City	Stuttgart	State		Countr		DE DE	Citi:	zenship					
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REGISTERED PRACTITIONER INFORMATION (Supplemental Sheet)

Name	Registration Number	Name	Registration Number
Name Daniel C. Abeles Brij K. Agarwal Adel A. Ahmed Debra Z. Anderson I. Marc Asperas Stanton C. Braden	25,822 43,507 29,606 44,506 37,274 32,556	Darryl A. Smith Daniel J. Staudt Erik C. Swanson Alan G. Towner Heather S. Vance Michael J. Wallace, Jr.	37,723 34,733 40,194 32,949 39,033 44,486
Robert T. Canavan Dexter K. Chin Daniel P. Cillo Joseph S. Codispoti Kirk D. Houser	37,592 38,842 25,108 31,819 37,357	Scott T. Weingaertner Russell C. Wells Richard V. Westerhoff Jeffrey S. Whittle Ira Lee Zebrak	37,756 24,188 24,454 36,382 31,147
Tracy Lynn Hurt Mark H. Jay Stuart Kaler Rosa S. Kim David C. Jenkins	34,188 27,507 35,913 39,728 42,691		
William F. Lang IV Robert P. Lenart Peter A. Luccarelli, Jr. David Maire James Markarian	41,928 30,654 29,750 34,865 31,277		
Diane R. Meyers Jeffrey P. Morris Pasquale Mussachio John P. Musone Carl Napolitano	38,968 25,307 36,876 44,961 37,405		
Donald B. Paschburg Clifford A. Pastel David V. Radack Arnold B. Silverman Laura M. Slenzak	33,753 46,013 33,442 22,614 35,363		

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